Proposals from Rajasthan

2211. DR. GYAN PRAKASH PILANIA:
SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether proposals for tourism development have been received from the State of Rajasthan;

(b) if so, the details of the proposals received alongwith the funds required;

(c) whether necessary clearances have been granted to the projects submitted by the State;

(d) if so, the details of the project clearances granted and the projects still pending for clearance; and

(e) the funds so far released against each project?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (e) Development and promotion of tourism is primarily the responsibility of State Governments/UT Administrations. However, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India extends Central Financial Assistance for tourism projects based on the proposals received from them complete in all respects as per the scheme guidelines, *inter-se* priority and subject to availability of funds.

The details of the Central Financial Assistance sanctioned and amount released to the State Government of Rajasthan for tourism infrastructure projects are as follows:—

(Rs. in lakh)

Year	Name of the project	Amount sanctioned	Amount released
1	2	3	4
2007-08	Floodlighting of monuments in Rajasthan	800.00	640.00
	Development of Shekhawati	754.46	603.57
2008-09	Conservation, Restoration of Parkota and various buildings of Shergarah, Baran	461.44	369.15
	Conservation, Restoration and Development of Nahargarh Fort, Jaipur	432.06	345.65
	Development of Hawamahal, Phase-II	360.66	288.52
	Development of Jantar Mantar, Phase-II	193.90	155.12
	Bala Qila and Kankarwari Fort	480.61	384.48
	Ajmer-Pushkar (as a mega destination)	1069.68	319.84

1	2	3	4
	New BG-II Palace on wheels (under Large Revenue Generating scheme)	750.00	750.00
	Conservation and Restoration Muchkund Dholpur	444.21	352.00
	Integrated Development of Udaipur	241.37	193.07

Global and domestic tourism

2212. SHRI RAHUL BAJAJ:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the share of global and domestic tourism in our tourism industry; and

(b) the steps which are being taken to promote domestic tourism?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) The number of foreign tourist arrivals and domestic tourist visits in India during 2008 are estimated at 5.37 million and 563 million respectively.

The Ministry of Tourism plays a crucial role in coordinating and supplementing the efforts of State/UT Governments in tourism promotion, catalyzing private sector investments, strengthening promotional and marketing efforts in domestic and overseas markets, and in providing trained manpower resources for the tourism sector.

The Marketing Development Assistance (MDA) Scheme of the Ministry of Tourism has been recently expanded so as to provide financial assistance to service providers for the promotion of Domestic Tourism in the country.

Decline in foreign tourists

2213. SHRI A. ELAVARASAN: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that during the last and current year, there has been a sharp decline in the number of foreign tourists coming to visit heritage centres in the country due to global recession;

(b) if so, the details thereof and whether Government proposes to implement special package to woo foreign visitors; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) The number of Foreign Tourist Arrivals (FTAs) in India during 2007, 2008 and January-June, 2009 and the growth rates over the corresponding period of previous year are given below:—